

Fresh Water Shock Process

Fresh water tanks can become stale and form bacteria that can be harmful to your health. Even if you drain your tank after every use, some bacteria can form in the fresh water tank. A good policy is to frequently shock the fresh water system of your RV to keep it safe for use. The following process will provide a solution to remove bacteria from your fresh water system at the levels recommended by EPA at 200 ppm and is a little stronger than some other proportions.

Step	Action
1	Determine the size of your fresh water tank (number of gallons) plus hot water heater.
2	Determine the amount of chlorine bleach that you will need based on 2/3 cup of bleach for each 10 gallons of water computed in step 1.
3	Pour the measured amount of bleach into a one gallon container (an old plastic milk carton works fine) then fill with water to create your disinfectant solution.
4	Turn hot water heater off and leave off for all process steps.
5	Drain fresh water tank.
6	Fill the fresh water tank one quarter to one third full with fresh water.
7	Add the disinfectant solution to the water in the fresh water tank.
8	Fill the remainder of the fresh water tank with fresh water to mix the solution as the tank is filling.
9	Turn water pump on and close any city or external water sources.
10	At each faucet (kitchen, bathroom, shower head, outside faucet, etc.), open the faucet for cold water until you smell a slight chlorine odor then open the faucet for hot water until you smell the chlorine odor. Repeat this step for each faucet.
11	Wait one hour then repeat step 10.
	Wait one hour then drain the fresh water and hot water tanks. (Make sure that the hot water tank is still turned off and not hot.)
12	Close fresh water and hot water tank drains. Close all faucets.
13	Fill fresh water tank with fresh water.
14	At each faucet (kitchen, bathroom, shower head, outside faucet, etc.), open the faucet for cold water until you do not smell a chlorine odor then open the faucet for hot water until you do not smell the chlorine odor. Repeat this step for each faucet until there is no smell of chlorine.
15	Drain the fresh water tank and refill with fresh water.
16	Repeat step 14.
17	Repeat step 15 and you now should have safe fresh water tanks.

If you still have a slight chlorine odor, add one-half cup of baking soda to a gallon of water then add the solution to the fresh water tank and repeat step 13, 14 and 15.

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